



PERSPECTIVES

ONTARIO'S LEADING DISABILITY INSURANCE LAWYERS

IN PERSON

Sid's Migraine

Twenty-nine-year-old Sid has not been having the easiest time working in the IT department of a small company. While Sid loves his job, his severe migraines make it hard for him to always perform to the high standards he sets for himself.

DIFFICULTIES WITH SYMPTOMS

Sid has suffered from severe migraines since his childhood. He experiences intense pain, usually on the left side of his head. During a migraine, he is also sensitive to light and has blurred vision. These symptoms make it



Sid loved his job, but his severe migraines made it hard for him to perform.

incredibly difficult for Sid to program on his computer. Lately, he has been experiencing some nausea in addition to his usual symptoms.

Sid received Employment Insurance for sickness when he took time off for his health, and then applied for Long-Term Disability benefits with the insurance company.

NEW MEDICATION NEEDED

When Sid had an appointment with his neurologist, they reviewed Sid's medical history. The neurologist supported Sid and recommended drugs to help him manage his migraines. However, Sid did not feel comfortable with the idea of taking prescription medication. His past attempts at using prescription medications had made him feel worse, and he had experienced other negative side effects.

LONG-TERM DISABILITY DENIED

Sid's migraines started increasing in frequency and duration. It felt like he was spiraling out of control with each passing day. When Sid heard back from the insurance company, they told him that if he was not taking medication then he was not sick. If



YOU SAID IT:

"I found Share Lawyers to be professional, caring, knowledgeable, and honest. I felt an extreme amount of confidence in the firm." - Fariq G.

FREE DISABILITY BOOKLET

Call (416) 488-9000 for your free copy of Disability Benefits Denied: What To Do When The Insurance Company Denies Your Disability Claim.

DO YOU HAVE A CASE?

Go to ShareLawyers.com to find out today!

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IN PERSON (cont. from page 1)

he was not doing the “appropriate treatment,” then he would not qualify.

Even though Sid informed the insurance company that he was using alternative treatments such as acupuncture, exercise and massage therapy to help manage his migraines and pain, the insurance company told him there was no evidence that alternative treatments would be helpful for Sid’s condition. Again, they denied his claim. They told Sid to return to work.

Sid tried going back to work, but he could not see the screen and could not be productive during the intense pain of his migraines. He felt frustrated and upset.

SHARE LAWYERS HELPS MAKE THINGS RIGHT

Sid was getting increasingly depressed and did not know what to do about the insurance company’s decision. A friend of his decided to try to help. He had seen a Share Lawyers brochure at his doctor’s office and called Share Lawyers on Sid’s behalf. Shortly afterward, Sid came in for a consultation.

The Share Lawyers team helped Sid obtain the information he needed to support his claim that the drugs were not helping him with his migraines. They argued that alternative treatments could also be effective and referred Sid for additional medical assessments.

Share Lawyers succeeded in getting Sid the benefits he needed. Sid was very grateful that his friend stepped in when he did, and was thankful for the expertise and kindness he received from the Share Lawyers team. He told his neurologist about his positive experience, and Share Lawyers’ brochures are now available to patients in his neurologist’s office.



[All names and identifying details have been changed to protect the confidentiality of all involved.]

SHARE LAWYERS’ TRIBUTE TO VOLKER TRIEBE ON HIS RETIREMENT:



You’ve been involved with Share Lawyers for many years. Can you tell us how you got started?

Since the mid 80s, I began my career with Share Lawyers doing real estate title searches and attending to real estate closings at various land registry offices. After the real estate market cooled in the 80s, I began freelancing as a process server, counting Share Lawyers as my most significant source of work.

Sometime in the early 90s, I was offered an in-house position, which I accepted.

Over the years, what have you done at Share Lawyers?

Share Lawyers provided me with the opportunity to obtain my certificate as a paralegal, and I have been working as a law clerk since then, with increasing responsibility over the years. Preparing correspondences to adjusters, lawyers, preparing legal documents such as claims and motion records, as well as delegating tasks to other clerks and assistants.

What are some memorable moments from your time at Share Lawyers?

Some memorable moments are the things that included all staff. Company anniversary celebrations, I recall one celebration which included a bowling party, the holiday celebrations hosted by David and Wendy were always lovely; the walkathons were memorable.

Most memorable is the people that I have worked for and with over all these years. I believe that it is the relationships that we build with those around us that is most important.

What are your plans for the future?

I want to watch the proverbial river flow; learn to actually play my guitars, spend more time on out-of-doors activities, do some volunteering; get into bread baking...such influence.

INSPIRATION

“A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles.”

- Christopher Reeve



“Spring passes and one remembers one’s innocence.

Summer passes and one remembers one’s exuberance.

Autumn passes and one remembers one’s reverence.

Winter passes and one remembers one’s perseverance.”

-Yoko Ono

DID YOU KNOW?

Seasonal Changes and Sunlight: Do They Affect Migraines?

Summer has arrived, which means that warm, sunny days are ahead of us. However, the seasonal change is not always kind to migraine sufferers.

Migraines are a major cause of disability, and can severely affect the lives of those who suffer from them. While migraines can occur at any time of year, some may experience seasonal migraines, such as the beginning of summer. Bright sunlight, high humidity, and extreme heat can all have an effect on the level of chemicals in your brain, such as serotonin. These types of changes can result in migraine headaches. A change in barometric pressure is also known to be associated with migraines.

Going from short, cold winter days to long, sunny summer days can also have an effect on people’s circadian rhythms, or their internal clocks. When you experience jet lag, you are experiencing a mismatch between your internal clock and the environmental conditions around you. Daylight savings time can affect people’s circadian rhythms or sleeping habits, resulting in migraine spikes.

Interestingly, while migraines are usually associated with intense pain, a small minority of people experience migraines without the intense pain. This type of migraine is referred to as a silent migraine or acephalgic migraine. There are

a variety of symptoms associated with this kind of migraine, for example blind spots, tunnel vision, and disruptions in hearing. While the pain may be absent, these symptoms are difficult to deal with and negatively affect the person’s ability to carry out their daily routine.



A common recommendation for migraine sufferers is to track their migraines and to avoid migraine triggers. A diary or journal is a useful tool and can alert people to possible migraine triggers. A helpful website called AccuWeather.com tracks weather conditions, identifying days that might be problematic for migraine sufferers. It’s important to try avoiding other migraine triggers during seasonal changes, such as missing meals or sleep, alcohol, certain foods and stress.

Hopefully, the seasonal migraine season is as short and as pain-free as possible so that everyone can enjoy summer as soon as possible.



REFER A FRIEND

When you refer a friend you make a real difference

Share Lawyers is a leading Toronto law firm that specializes in insurance disputes in Ontario. Following an accident or illness, Share Lawyers helps people to get the support they need and deserve.

Please recommend Share Lawyers to your family and friends with long-term disabilities who struggle with private or group insurance claims.



YOU SAID IT!

Comments from Actual Clients

"David, I would like to thank you very much for all the hard work you put into settling my case with the insurance company. My case was very emotional to me, since the insurance company had cancelled my disability so suddenly, which left us in a financial strain."

- Monica R.

"Excellent. I found everybody to be very helpful. My experience with Share Lawyers was very good and very prompt. I found the staff to be very helpful and very responsive. I was very satisfied with the result obtained."

- Naomi E.

"My experience was professional and honest. The staff was very helpful and qualified. I have no concerns with the service, so I see no reason for improvement. To all the staff at Share Lawyers thank you and keep up the good work."

- Errol V.



SUMMER LOVIN':

Summer Family News from the Share Lawyers Family

- Christine's daughter, Avery, graduated from preschool on June 7



- Surabi is getting married! We wish all the best to her and her husband to be



- Joy recently welcomed another granddaughter, little Leah! Leah is the second daughter for Joy's son Charles and his wife Moran. Megan is very excited to have a sister!

DO YOU HAVE A CASE?

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